

Characters

Boy 22-24

Woman Katherine, Katie Belle 40-45

Waitress 22-24

His friends

Manager (I could do this)

Hotel barman

His brother 26-30

His mother 50-55

Saleswoman

Katie Married on her yearly vacation. She usually goes with another woman from her school but this year she is going alone because her girlfriend got married. This is the penultimate mall that she is visiting on a trip across the Midwest outlet malls. She is staying at the Radisson next to the mall. She is a woman who is comfortable with who she is, but not ness. where she has ended up.

Billy: A nature kid, loves to be outdoors and walk in the woods, very faith based and a big reader of the bible but not a proselytizer or someone who feels the need to burden other people with his beliefs. Loves working at the outlet mall with his friends. Lives in town with his mother who works at the local power plant, the father is long gone ("Milwaukee I think, maybe Chicago, it doesn't matter does it?"). he has an older brother who lives at home still.

Mother: Very independent, protective and sweet. She worked at the Chrysler engine plant in Kenosha until she was laid off and then worked at the power plant. She is in her early fifties and sickly with COPD, needing an oxygen tank. She also needs her boys to take care of her, but she hates the idea of not being independent, she tries not to concentrate on he illness, or talk to much about it with her kids. Should she meet Katie?

Katherine: A teacher who has been married for five years. She has no children and this is her first marriage. This is how she spends

part of her summer vacation, traveling to different outlet malls across the Midwest. She usually travels with a friend, but she had to take her daughter on college visits, so this year she is going it alone.

Billy: Billy has lived in the community all his life. He still lives at home with his older brother and his mother. He considers his mother his responsibility and tries to take care of her, but this is not something that she necessarily wants. He is very religious and takes his Catholicism seriously though he is not preachy or overt about it. This is in contrast to the rest of his family which is not religious in the slightest. He loves his job and what the mall is doing for his community, providing jobs and a ladder up. He has absolutely no cynicism about it. He also is a passionate lover of photography and the nature and forest preserves around his town. He will spend his days off wandering the trails and taking photos with his old 35mm camera.

Rick: Billy's older brother is a policeman in the community. He still lives at home as he is saving up money to buy a house. He has a fiancée who he has known since grade school). He is older than Billy but has a good sense of humor and fun, and sometimes seems like the younger brother of the two. He is a little bit more of an old boy than a man.

Lea: Tony and Rick's mother. Lea has raised her children alone since they were babies. She used to work for the Chrysler engine plant in Kenosha until they downsized her. She found another job working in the electrical plant that sits behind the outlet mall. She has worked there for almost twenty years and is deciding whether or not she wants to take retirement. She feels bad because she knows her younger son feels responsible for her and thinks her retirement would only aggravate it. It is a situation she thinks a lot about but does not really know what to do about it. She is very protective and sweet with her children.

Heather: A friend of Billy who works in another shop at the outlet mall. She has known him since she moved into the community in High School. They dated for a little bit, but that was right out of high school. They still consider themselves to be really good friends, I do not know if they would be if it wasn't for the proximity of the situation. Heather has remained close to Billy's mother and spends a lot of time with her now that her own mother has remarried and moved out of the area.

Hotel Associate Manager: This is his first job out of hospitality school. He was born and raised in Chicago and this is where he could find a job. It is an important distinction to him that he is an Associate manager and not an *assistant* manager. He has noticed heather from afar and really likes her, but is a little shy on acting on it